

A
LETTER
SENT
TO MY LORD
MAIOR.

AND
His Venerable BRETHREN:

By no *Atbist*, no *Papist*, no *Arminian*, no *Ana-*
baptist, no *Familist*, no *Separatist*, or *Brownist*; but an
honest beleeving Protestant, and that because that *Sepa-*
ratist otherwise called *Brownist*, was in many mens
account said and held to be worse
then *Papist*.

Written by A. S. *Greener*



LONDON,
Printed in the year, MDCXLII.

LETTER

TO MY LORD
MAJOR



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A
C O P I E
O F
A L E T T E R
Sent to my Lord Ma-
jor, and his Brethren.

MA Y your Honor with the rest of your Worshipful Brethren, with all that shall see heare or read this writing, consider and understand, how that *Separatist* sealed *Brownists*, why they should bee courted and imprisoned, for the way they walk in, I much marvel at. Truth may be blamed, but it can never be shamed: these reasons I give for it.

First, they are a people very desirous to make the *Scripture* the rule, and patterne of their lives and actions,

ons during their extancy in this mortall life. And King *James* of blessed memory told Master *Burton*, that those men that did so walke as neere as the frailtie of the flesh would let them, in avoyding the vanity and viriousnes of the times, hee loved immutably, and so do I: and so should we all doe, if we will doe as we ought, Saint *Peters* rule comprehends the whole Law of God for a good Christian to imitate.

1. Is *Sobriety* in respect of ones selfe?

2. *Vprightnes* in respect of our *Christian Brethren*?

3. Of *Holinesse* towards God, and this threefold cord is not quickly broke. And according to these rules do that Sect of *Separatists*, called *Brownists* walke, and those good Christian Protestants called *Puritans*, or *round-heads* prick eares walk: but shamelesse ruffians past grace and good manners, with black mouthed *Tertullus* will bee babling: when the shame lieth in length of their owne haire. Is it not a shame for a man to weare long haire, if they will not beleeve me they may Saint *Paul*: I have digressed a little to my matter, This Sect of *Seperatists* called *Brownists* endeavour according to Saint *Peters* Rule to live.

First, soberly, in respect of themselves, and so are no drunkards, or at least no common ones if they fall; and which of us Protestants doe not, in a large field; yet I am confident they rise againe by serious contrition and repentance.

Secondly, they live uprightly in respect of their Christian Brethren, using faire and shonest dealing betweene man and man; if there be a clole Hypocrite amongst them, as *Judas* amongst the *Apostles*, and is
our

our owne wheat so cleane as to have no cockell, or kernell in it, let us not then condemne all for some a generality for a particularity.

Thirdly they live holily towards God, and it excellently appeareth in their frequent receiving of the *Sacrament*, and in having a reverend regard of the name of God, not daring to take it in vaine; much lesse to curse swear or blaspheme that holy name, by which they are sealed to the day of Redemption: besides the Sun-day most properly named the *Saboth* day, or *Lords* day they celebrate, not in luxury or wantonesse, nor in ryot or excesse, nor in hobihorsing *morris dancing*, carding diceing bowling, wrestling, rippling, sporting, gaming, or unnecessary idleing or vain spending that day, or the evening thereof in unnecessary walking to take the ayre, and so forth: but in sanctifying that day as the *Lord* requireth, & as is prescribed in the *Practice of Piety*, a Book we allow good, and made by the Spirit of God: which tells that if we doe not sanctifie that day, and every part thereof, we shall never keepe a *Saboth* with the *Lord* in Heaven. Me thinks when we consider our neglects in this dutie, we should tremble to punish these good and godly people by courting or imprisoning them.

Object. These are good things, and wee like the people well, being so carefull to please God, but why will they not come to heare our *Lyturgie*, or our Ministers preach?

Answer. Time would not give way to satisfie in answer to that, but their reasons shall bee given as speedily as may bee, they shall bee so plaine that hee that runs may read.

And now because they are counted, and said to be by too many of us Protestants worse then *Papists*, I shall here prove the contrary.

First it is one thing to erre in opinion, and tell mee which of us Protestants Divines, and others do not?

Secondly it is another thing to erre in fundamentall truths; in the first they may as wee our selves, in the latter for fundamentalls they doe not, and so are not worse, but better then the *Papists*.

Reall presence in the *Eucharist*.

Merit of Heaven by good works.

Purgatorie for soules to rest in after death.

Pardon for sinnes present and to come.

Prohibiting Mariage to the *Clergie*, with a vow to it.

Originall sin, nor actuall transgression in the blessed Virgin *Mary*; and that shee is glorified in body, and sits at her sons right hand in Heaven, making intercession for them.

That those that die in veniall sinnes on the want of satisfaction, are by prayer delivered out of Purgatorie, and so passe immediately into Heaven.

Maintaining *Stewes*, taking a million of mony, or more yearly by the sin of whoredomes and uncleanness.

These though many more might bee named, all contrary to fundamentall truths, the *Papists* hold and beleve. Now I hope never a one of us Protestants will ever censure, or acknowledge, that *Separatists* (otherwise called from *Browne Brownists*, as we call from *Luther Lutherans*, or from *Calvin Calvinists*, not but they were long before ever Master *Browne*

was) I say, ever beleeve any of this Sect to be guilty of these, or other fundamentall truths, and so are better then *Papists*: and shall I say, looking on our own lives and wayes, (would God I could not) better then many of us prophane, and lake-warme Protestants: It is ever good to speake truth, and to sit the saddle on the right horse, and I pray God grant, that wee Protestants may make their lives, and actions in all godlinesse our rules and patternes to walke by, however never prove railing *Rabshakes*, or scoffing *Shimeis* against our brethren, and I verily beleeve to Gods deare ones.

And I am confident these *Separatists* called *Brownists*, doe tender the person and welfare of his Majestie, so highly, that to doe him good and service, they would stake estate and life for it: many have protested it seriously, and as really I beleeve it, and they that doe not, I question whether they be good Christians to God, or good subjects to his *anoynted*: had this Sect ever their hearts dipt in bloud in all their persecutions, or molestations, or were ever Traytors to the Crowne and State?

Object. They have beene kept under, and could not hurt us.

Ans. And so have the *Papists*, but would have hurt us; but these people would have endured wrong, and suffered patiently, knowing they have thanks with God thereunto, were they called, and if they could they would not, for their Religion is no bloudy one, and so long wee need not be afraid, for wee shall never be hurt I warrant you by them, either in estate or life, if there were ten times more then there are of them.

God blesse and preserve our Gracious King, our
Royall Queene, the Noble Off-spring, all the Honou-
rable Lords, Right worshipfull and worshipfull Bur-
gessees now assembled in the High Court of Parlia-
ment, and the whole Realme, and send us peace and
truth in *Iesus Christ* our Lord. *Amen.*



ARON STREATER *Divine,*
and licensed Physitian.

FINIS.

THE PETITION

of England OF *Parliament*

The LORDS and COMMONS,

PRESENTED

To His Majestie

By the Earle of *Stamford*, Master Chan-
cellour of the Exchequer, and Master
Hungerford, April 18. 1642.

Together with His MAJESTIES
Answer thereunto.



LONDON:

Printed by ROBERT BARKER, Printer
to the Kings most Excellent Majestie: And
by the Assignes of JOHN BILL.

1642.